

Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Protection Cabinet Kentucky Horse Racing Commission

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Kentucky Horse Racing Commission Increases Recommended Suspension of Richard Dutrow to Thirty Days

Overage of clenbuterol found in horse on race day

FRANKFORT, KY – (July 7, 2009) – The Kentucky Horse Racing Commission (KHRC) today issued a suspension of trainer Richard Dutrow for thirty days and ordered the loss of purse and the horse disqualified. The commission's action comes after the KHRC last fall remanded the case to the hearing officer for further proceedings. The hearing officer granted another hearing in the matter on April 23, 2009, and recommended that the KHRC uphold the stewards original 15-day suspension ordered. The KHRC, however, decided under the circumstances that a 30 day suspension was appropriate.

"The Commission members sent a clear message that the integrity of horse racing is an issue that will not be taken lightly," said KHRC Executive Director Lisa Underwood. "It is the duty of this Commission and staff to do whatever is necessary to make certain that rules and regulations are followed and that those who violate those rules will be dealt with."

At issue was an allegation that a Dutrow trained horse, Salute the Count, tested positive for clenbuterol following a race on May 2, 2008, at Churchill Downs. All purse

money was ordered returned, the horse was disqualified and Mr. Dutrow was suspended for 15 days by the stewards. Mr. Dutrow appealed the stewards ruling.

At the April hearing, Dutrow testified that he was not aware that a member of his training staff had given the horse the drug too close to the racing date, but took full responsibility for the actions of the staff member. The hearing officer found that Dutrow did not dispute the overage.

Dutrow can appeal the Commission's decision to Franklin Circuit Court.